Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies

Listed in alphabetical order by organization

Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System, Portland, Maine -- \$1,000,000 requested

The Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System (GoMOOS) system includes oceanographic buoys, a website and data services that provides continuous real time observations in the Gulf of Maine. This funding would provide support for key components of GoMOOS in the coastal waters of Maine so that GoMOOS may continue to collect and deliver critical ocean and weather data to federal and state agencies, organizations and individuals that rely on this information.

Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Ecosystem Science to Rebuild Groundfish Stocks, Portland, Maine -- \$1,000,000 requested

This project would provide information and support tools needed by state and federal fisheries managers to evaluate various approaches to rebuilding groundfish stocks in the Gulf of Maine.

Gulf of Maine Research Institute, Natural Biopolymer Research & Development Partnership, Portland, Maine -- \$1,320,000 requested

Funding would support research at the Gulf of Maine Research Institute in collaboration with FMC Corporation to develop natural biopolymer-based medical devices for wound healing, orthopedic and drug delivery applications.

Maine Department of Marine Resources, Continuation of Protected Species Bycatch Reduction Maine Groundline Exchange Program, Augusta, Maine - \$7,282,625 requested

In April 2009, new federal regulations took effect that require lobstermen to replace their current floating groundline with sinking rope designed to reduce the risk of entangling endangered whales. This program assists lobstermen comply with these federal regulations.

Maine Department of Marine Resources, Groundfish Industry Emergency Economic Assistance, Augusta, Maine -- \$10,645,000 requested

In recent years the groundfishery has struggled to survive amid increasingly restrictive federal regulations aimed at ending overfishing. This funding will provide economic assistance to ensure the continuation of Maine's groundfish industry.

Maine Department of Marine Resources, Herring Monitoring Research, Augusta, Maine - \$875,000 requested

Funding would improve the government's ability to adequately monitor and assess the herring resource. Greater monitoring and assessment would assist in determining optimum yield, minimizing bycatch of other species, and avoid financial impacts from market shortages.

Maine Department of Marine Resources, Maine/New Hampshire Inshore Trawl Survey, Augusta, Maine - \$400,000 requested

The National Marine Fisheries Service trawl survey is not able to survey the shallower inshore waters of the Gulf of Maine because of the extremely rough topography and abundance of lobster gear. The Maine/New Hampshire Inshore Trawl Survey fills this information gap by providing a multi species assessment to promote the efficient management of Maine's fishing industries. Filling this information gap is a priority for both state and federal resource managers and fishermen, addressing issues like fish stock recovery and fishery management measures.

Maine Department of Marine Resources, Scallop Enhancement and Research, Augusta, Maine - \$980,000 requested

Maine's scallop stocks are in sharp decline and the Maine Department of Marine Resources is working to rebuild Maine's scallop resource and create a sustainable scallop fishery. This project would examine the impacts of predators on the scallop populations and the safety of large-scale adult scallop transplants.

Maine Department of Marine Resources, Red Tide Monitoring/Lamoine Laboratory Infrastructure, Augusta, Maine -- \$1,900,000 requested

Funds would go toward infrastructure upgrades for the Lamoine Laboratory and would improve monitoring programs. This project would provide greater protection to public health by insuring that shellfish are safe for human consumption.

Somerset County, Equipment Upgrade to Improve Technology and Communications in Somerset County, Skowhegan, Maine -- \$1,090,500 requested

Law enforcement and others cannot communicate with one another or ambulances, HAZMAT, and EMA officials by cell phone or radio in certain areas throughout the Route 201 Corridor of Somerset County, Maine. Funds would be used to improve communication technology and to help construct new communication towers.

University of Maine, Understanding Abrupt Climate Change, Orono, Maine -- \$1,000,000 requested

Funding would support research at the University of Maine, and several other partner institutions, to examine issues related to the range, magnitude, forcing, and predictability of abrupt climate change events. The initiative will focus on the recovery, analysis and interpretation of paleoclimate archives (glacial deposits and ice cores) that describe the role of the atmosphere in abrupt climate change.

University of Maine, Forestry and Agricultural By-Products for Aquaculture, Orono, Maine -- \$620,000 requested

Aquaculture represents a \$1 billion industry annually, ensuring this industry stays competitive in the global market requires investment in science and technology infrastructure. A growing concern for the sustainability and growth of aquaculture is the availability of high quality fish meal to feed the commercial species. Funding would support laboratory research into optimal species of fungus and growth conditions; characterization of the feed quality of the mycelium biomass; construction and equipping of a pilot facility to produce biomass for continuous feed trials.

U.S. Gulf of Maine Association (on behalf of the New England Governors' Conference Inc.), Regional Ocean and Costal Priorities, Falmouth, Maine -- \$1,890,000 requested

The New England Governors' Conference (NEGC) represents the six state region and works to promote economic development. NEGC has developed a work plan to address priority ocean issues. Funds would go toward improving federal and state policy, planning and regulatory decision-making; developing a New England ocean governance framework; improving decision-making about ecosystem health; working at the community level to adapt to climate change & sea level rise; and strengthening responses to renewable and traditional energy activities. In addition, programmatic funds administered by NOAA are requested to support research, sea floor mapping, and high resolution light detection and ranging.